Investigation and Evidence 5

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SAS:cw/4-21-64
cc: Mr. Rankin
Mr. Stern
Files

April 21, 1964

MEMORANDUM

TO : J. Lee Rankin

FROM : Samuel A. Stern

SUBJECT: Further Work to be Done in my Areas

This is in response to your memorandum of April 16, 1964, regarding further work to be done in each area.

A. Presidential Protection

Agents Bouck, Lawson and Sorrels are scheduled to testify on Thursday, April 23, 1964. We have received formal responses from Secret Service to our questions on Dallas. Before Thursday, we will have their formal responses to our more general questions. If these responses and the testimony of the witnesses satisfy the Commission, no further major work will remain. If the Commission desires more information on Secret Service plans for the future, we will have to schedule the testimony of Chief Rowley.

Regarding recommendations on the sharing of intelligence data among agencies, Mr. Williams has informally requested a briefing on FBI data processing. It is essential to understand how the FBI handles information to be able to recommend, even generally, a new approach to making additional information available to the Secret Service. Once we understand the FBI system, I will want to have further talks with Secret Service and CIA. I don't believe any witnesses in this area will be required.

To negate the suggestion that Oswald might have been a CIA agent, we are, as I understand it, to get an affidavit made by Mr. McCone. I believe that Mr. Dulles has undertaken to arrange for this. Whether anything further will need to be done depends upon the acceptability of the affidavit.

On the FBI's involvement with Oswald we have received the FBI's responses to our initial set of questions. I am preparing a draft of follow-up questions which we may want to use. We should also consider asking for all internal FBI documents on Oswald, and I have prepared a draft letter making this request.

We have not taken the testimony of FBI agents who had various contacts with Oswald, having postponed this decision until we had the FBI's responses to our questions. In view of the rather disappointed nature of the responses, it appears necessary to take the testimony of the agents. I do not think it will be necessary to make them Commission witnesses, and believe I could take their depositions, in Dallas and New Orleans, in two or three days. We should consider deposing agents Fain, Carter and Brown, who interviewed Oswald in Fort Worth or Dallas; Hosty and Wilson, who interviewed Mrs. Paine and Marina in Irving; Mr. Quigley, who interviewed Oswald in New Orleans; and Mr. Hack, who wrote the New Orleans report. These depositions would be directed primarily at obtaining further information on matters already covered in the FBI reports on Oswald, and secondarily at learning more about the FBI's interest in Oswald and rejecting the suggestion that he might have been an FBI informant.

B. Treatment of Oswald by Dallas Police

The Commission may wish to question the scheduled Dallas police witnesses on this matter. With the depositions that were taken in Dallas, an adequate record of the treatment of Oswald is available, except for viewing the tapes of any television record made of his arrest and detention. We are taking steps to obtain these tapes. If the tapes do not suggest any further line of inquiry, no further witnesses or other investigation would seem to be required.

C. Attitude of Ruby

I have not been able to penetrate the literature. I am trying to locate someone who might advise me as to where the most responsible work on social psychology is being carried out so that we may consider consulting an expert.

* * * *

I expect to begin working next week on the first draft of the section of my Presidential Protection area dealing with a description of the protective measures taken before and at Dallas. If it is decided that the depositions of the FBI agents named above should be taken, I can break off and hopefully finish this within two or three days. Since Barefoot Sanders will be away from Dallas for the next

two weeks, and probably should be in Dallas when I interview the FBI agents, perhaps these depositions should not be scheduled until the week of May 11th. During these two weeks I would also plan to work on data processing techniques with the FBI, Secret Service and CIA. The editing of Commission testimony and staff depositions for which I am responsible will not interfere with this schedule.

I am, however, concerned that a serious effort to learn the latest accomplishment of sociologists and psychologists in attempting to measure and explain group dynamics, with a view to attempting some evaluation in the report of such matters, could seriously interfere with this schedule. I will know better after I find a knowledgeable person with whom to discuss this.